

Boston Police Homicide Unit
(Investigative report)

CC # 21-

File title Hurley Homicide	Investigator (s) Craven & Armstrong	Page 1 of 2
Incident location 39 Eastbourne Street	Case #	Method
Report re: Interview of James J. Keough		Date 3-10-92

On Tuesday, March 10th, 1992 at approximately 2:45pm Detectives Brendan Craven and Francis Armstrong met one James J. Keough w/m/s, dob 01-03-69 of 290 W 5th Street, South Boston at his home. Mr. Keough resides with his mother Margaret (62 yrs.) and his son Joseph in the first floor apartment, phone # 269-3510. Mr. Keough is 6'-1", 200 lbs., ss# 018-60-4056.

Mr. Keough tells us that he was discharged from the United States Marine Corps on 12-23-88 with a COG discharge because of flat feet.

Mr. Keough had previously lived with Paula Shay at 200d Falls Blvd., Quincy, phone # 472-7025 at the home of her mother Nancy Shay. Paula is the mother of Joseph. Paula Shay now resides at 447 W. Broadway, S. Boston phone # 269-3025. She also can be found at the home of Carol Burhoe of 601 E 4th St., 1st floor, S. Boston, phone # 464-4544. Paula Shay was served her grand jury subpoena there this afternoon.

James told us that on the 16th of January of this year he attempted to kill himself at the Shay residence at the Falls. When he returned to the apt. on the 17th of January he was told by Paula that her brother Thomas had taken his National Guard uniforms and his military identification from the 101st NG division of Dorchester, MA..

James began telling us of his stay at the Shay residence. He told us that he overheard several conversations with the family members discussing the explosion.

David Shilalis told James that Jr. took a sign with him stating "National Guardsman needs ride". Keough thinks this is how Shay Jr. hitchhiked across the country. Keough overheard a conversation between Amy Lenar (nee Shay) and Nancy Shay where Amy stated that Jr. had called her from San Francisco and that he might be going to Mexico. Nancy also received a post card from Jr. but she told Keough that she can't trust anyone after her GJ appearance and would not tell him where it was from.

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Keough made out a police report to the OPD concerning the theft of his things. Nancy Shay was very upset about this. Anytime Jr.'s name was brought up, Nancy would say "Run Tommy run, don't let them catch you". James Keough was very concerned about Shay Jr. having his ID. Keough did not want to get blamed for anything Jr. would do. Keough told us that Paula and her mother felt that Jr. was in trouble over the Roslindale bombing. Keough got suspicious when Jr. stated, that his father spoke to him at the jail but Jr. didn't talk to him because, "I thought he was wired". Jr. then told Keough, "I didn't do it, I don't know anyone who can make a bomb". Paula had asked Keough if he thought Tom Jr. could make the bomb - Keough said - no. Weeks later Paula would ask Jim if he thought Shay Sr. did it - Keough said - no. James was well aware of the pending insurance case against Dedham Service Center. Jim was under the impression that Mary Flanagan and Kristen would get the money if anything happened to Shay Sr.. Paula then told Jim that she felt that Tommy could have had someone do this because he hated his father so much. Paula felt that if Sr. was involved his motive would have been the lawsuit with Dedham service Center.

Keough found out about the lawsuit on 10-31-91 after Jr.'s press conference at the Trailways bus station. James first found out about the bombing when he was speaking to Paula on the phone the day of the explosion. James thought that Jr. did it and Nancy disagreed.

Most of the discussions at the Nancy Shay household concerned Shay Sr.. Jeannie McGuire, daughter of Nancy, was the only family member not discussing the case. Paula got very mad at Jr. after the press conference. She stated, "You made the fucking bomb and caused all this trouble for us". Jr. - "I didn't make the bomb". Paula - "Maybe you didn't but someone you know did". Jr. - "I don't know anyone who can make a bomb".

James was convinced that Jr. did this, Jr. would leave the house for several days at a time prior to his leaving for the West Coast. Paula would then ask Keough why the cops would be pegging Jr., Keough stated it was because of his past.

On 2-3-92 the day that Brendan and I interviewed Nancy - Paula told Jimmy that Nancy was going to try to incriminate Shay Sr.. Keough told us that Paula had no problem with the idea that Jr. tried to kill Sr. out of hatred.

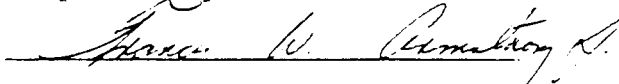
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James told us that when he fled to Florida he called the US Marshal's office and asked if there were any outstanding warrants for him, they said no.'

Paula would yell at Nancy and tell her that Jr. was responsible for the explosion. Nancy would then go into a rage and say that Sr. was trying to pin the blame on Jr. When Keough was residing there a man called for Jr. from Washington. He stated that Jr. could come and live with him and he would get Jr. a job.

Keough tells us that the reason that Nancy had her phone disconnected was that she believed that the Feds had wiretapped her phone.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Francis W. Armstrong Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

Detective Francis W. Armstrong Jr.